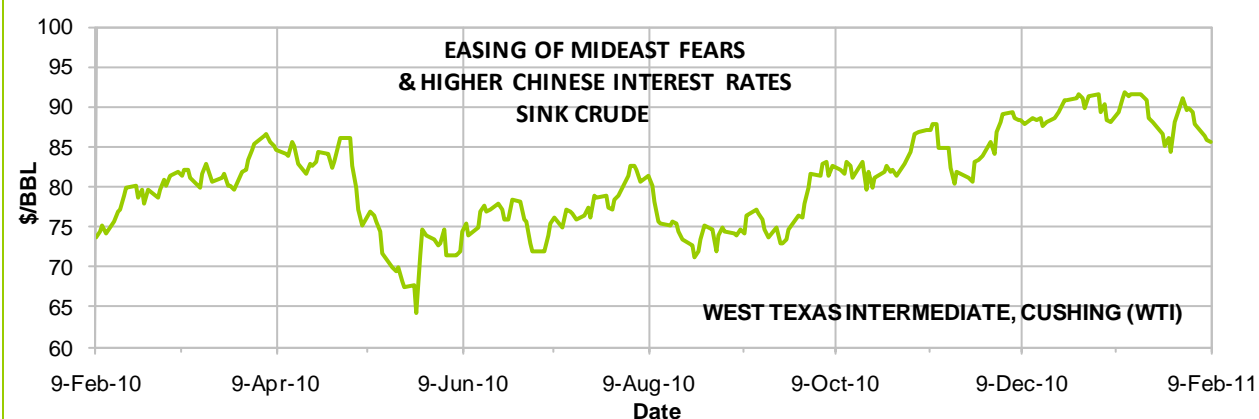


Crude Oil



A 0.5% gain in domestic production offset an increase in crude inputs to refineries and a fall in imports as inventories grew by 1.9 million barrels this week. This was slightly less than the expected gain of 2.0 million and it trailed the 5-year average gain of 2.4 million by 22%. Inventories are 4.2% above last year and they are 6.1% above the 5-year average. Inventories are at their second highest level for this date in the past 20 years.

Prices fell for the week as fears of the effects of the Mideast crisis eased and higher interest rates in China lead to expectations of slower economic growth and lower energy demand. Futures prices were \$1.86 lower, settling at \$95.92. This was \$19.54 (25.6%) lower than a year ago. The spot price settled at \$85.56, \$11.86 (16.1%) higher than last year but \$4.19 below the week before. Futures and spot prices are 34% and 41% below their 2008 peak prices.

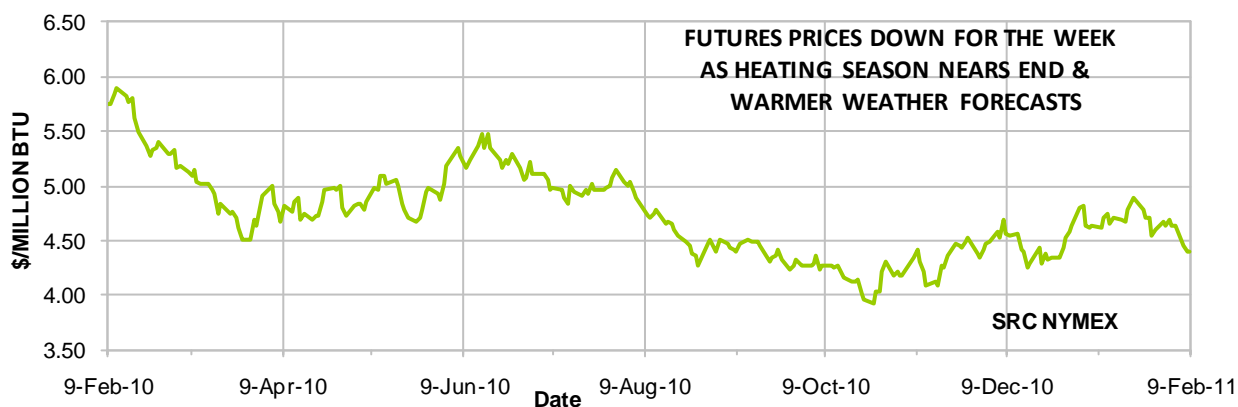


Natural gas



Inventories fell this week by 209 BCF. The inventory decline was 6.6% larger than the expected decline of 196 BCF and 31% larger than the 5-year average decline of 159 BCF. At 2,144 BCF, this week's inventory level has worsened to 4.4% below last year and 2.1% below the 5-year average.

Despite the large inventory draw and cold winter weather, prices fell this week on forecasts for more moderate winter weather. Also, the end of the heating season is in sight and inventories are still fairly high. Futures prices fell by 29.4 cents this week. At \$4.404 per million BTU, futures prices are \$1.343 (23.4%) lower than a year ago and 67% below the 2008 peak. They have fallen by 37.3 cents over the past 3 weeks. After rising by 15.0 cents last week, the spot prices fell by 32.0 cents this week to \$4.230 per million BTU. They are \$1.300 (23.5%) lower than a year ago and 68.2% below their 2008 peak.

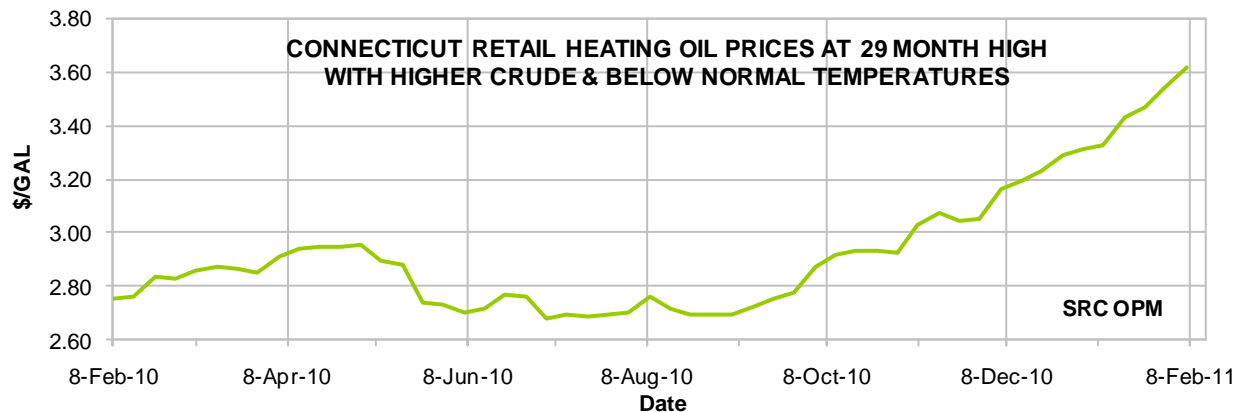


Heating oil



Inventories grew unexpectedly by a modest 0.3 million barrels this past week compared to an expected decline and the five-year average decline of 1.0 million. Stocks have improved to 5.2% above last year and they are their highest level ever for this date, 18% above the five-year average.

Futures prices and spot prices have risen by more than 50 cents/gal over the past 3 months from higher crude prices and colder than normal weather. Futures prices settled at \$2.830/gal, 80.5 cents (39.7%) above last year but \$1.365 (32.5%) below 2008's peak. Spot prices are at \$2.750/gal, 81.6 cents (42.2%) above last year but \$1.330 (32.6%) below the 2008 peak. Retail prices rose by 7.3 cents this past week. They are now at \$3.617/gal, 86.0 cents (31.2%) above a year ago but \$1.150 (24.1%) below their 2008 peak. The highest price in this week's survey was \$4.199 and the lowest was \$3.150. According to census data, 49.1% of dwelling units in Connecticut heat with oil.



Connecticut Regional Heating Oil Prices

	FAIRFIELD			HARTFORD			NEW LONDON		
	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW
8-Feb-10	2.932	3.399	2.500	2.719	2.999	2.469	2.746	3.299	2.519
24-Jan-11	3.598	4.040	3.240	3.505	3.890	3.289	3.370	3.500	3.160
31-Jan-11	3.637	4.099	3.240	3.594	3.990	3.369	3.421	3.580	3.240
7-Feb-11	3.720	4.199	3.340	3.659	3.999	3.429	3.495	3.690	3.280
	LITCHFIELD			MIDDLESEX			TOLLAND-WINDHAM		
	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW
8-Feb-10	2.699	2.799	2.649	2.777	2.999	2.590	2.664	2.849	2.500
24-Jan-11	3.497	3.679	3.399	3.481	3.699	3.240	3.426	3.499	3.320
31-Jan-11	3.581	3.729	3.439	3.569	3.729	3.340	3.478	3.549	3.360
7-Feb-11	3.615	3.749	3.539	3.663	3.799	3.400	3.578	3.649	3.410
	NEW HAVEN								
	AVG	HIGH	LOW						
8-Feb-10	2.702	2.990	2.399						
24-Jan-11	3.381	3.599	3.050						
31-Jan-11	3.469	3.729	3.120						
7-Feb-11	3.535	3.849	3.150						

OPM conducts a weekly survey of retail heating oil prices in Connecticut. These figures reference the most recent results of that survey for the reporting week beginning February 7, 2011. Figures reflect per gallon prices without discount.

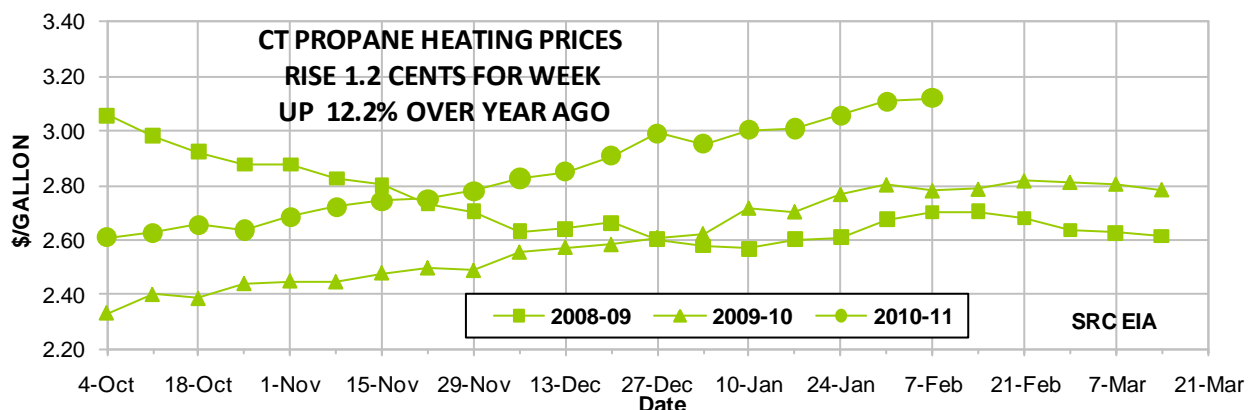
For more information, see www.ct.gov/OPM > Energy Management > Energy Price and Supply Information

Propane



Propane inventories fell by 3.1 million this week. This week's decline compares to a 5-year average decline for the week of 2.7 million. Over the past 5 weeks inventories have fallen by 17.75 million barrels, 30% more than the 5-year average of 13.6 for the period. Inventories have worsened to only 0.4% above last year and 15.0% below the 5-year average.

Spot propane prices rose by 1.8 cents this past week. At \$1.352 per gallon Wednesday, spot prices were only 0.5 cents (0.4%) higher than a year ago and they are 31.7% lower than their peak 2008 price. Reflecting previous increases in crude oil prices, supply issues, and colder than normal temperatures, the average Connecticut retail price for home heating rose by 1.2 cents this week. At \$3.120/gal, retail prices are 34 cents (12.2%) higher than a year ago. According to census data, propane is used to heat 2.7% of homes in Connecticut.



Gasoline



Because demand has been depressed by winter storms and production has grown because of higher refinery margins, inventories rose by 4.7 million barrels this week. This was 80% higher than expected and almost three times the 5-year average. Inventories levels are 4.7% higher than last year and 6.9% above the 5-year average. Inventories are now at their highest level ever for this date.

At \$2.609/gal, futures prices rose by 1.8 cents this week. They are 61.0 cents (30.5%) higher than last year but \$1.002 (27.8%) below their 2008 peak. Spot prices rose by 3.5 cents. At \$2.513/gal, they are 59.5 cents (31.0%) higher than a year ago. Spot prices are 26.3% (\$0.899) below their 2008 peak. Connecticut retail prices were flat this week but have risen by 34.9 cents over the past 14 weeks. At \$3.336, prices are 50.7 cents (17.9%) higher than a year ago but 24.0% (\$1.054) below 2008's peak.

